

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## “Speak Unto Us Smooth Things” (Part 2)

A caustic, carping, critic recently said, “The stifling orthodoxy of many churches of Christ is keeping many persons from being a part of Christ’s church.” It is the old statement that the church is too narrow. We have all heard it in one form or another dozens of times. But what about this alleged “stifling orthodoxy?” Stifling is to smother, prevent from breathing, suffocate, repress. Orthodoxy is conforming to the usual beliefs or established doctrines; conforming to the Christian faith. Since when is Christianity stifled by insisting that people conform exactly to the Christian faith? Paul required that we are “not to go beyond the things which are written” (1 Corinthians 4:6). Peter wrote, “if any man speaketh, speaking as it were oracles of God” (1 Peter 4:11).

Men leading the current ecumenical efforts cry for unity in diversity. They say doctrine divides so do away with it. They want to blur the line of distinction. They have abandoned the premise that unity can be based upon obedience to God’s revealed Word. They denounce those who are engaged in denouncing error. And they apparently never notice how inconsistent they are when they denounce denouncers. They say that all brethren are “brethren in error” and ridicule the idea of drawing lines of fellowship on doctrinal matters. Listeners who want to live as they please and believe what they fancy have itching ears for this kind of speaking. They want to be soothed instead of being saved. But even leaders of the alleged unity movement have some few doctrinal points they say must be accepted. There are points that are irreducible minimum. But to be consistent, if we accept part of the commands of Christ, we should accept them all! We should not require only a few of the points of the doctrine of Christ; logically we should stand for all of them. John writes that if anyone does not abide in the teaching or doctrine of Christ we should not fellowship that person (2 John 9-11).

Paul fought for the Truth, and we should do likewise. Near the end of his life he looked back and wrote, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7). We should want preachers to preach the Word of God in power and love, without fear or favor. Jesus said, “Take heed therefore how ye hear” (Luke 8:18). And, “Take heed what ye hear” (Mark 4:24).

—J. Noel Meredith

### RESTORING JOY

Nothing is more tragic than the loss of a soul. God has done so much to insure the salvation of our souls (John 3:16; 1 John 3:16). We ought to do all we can to aid and attain that provision. There are a number of things that we can do to insure the joy of salvation.

- \* I can make sure that I am faithful to God in all phases of my life (Revelation 2:10; 1 Corinthians 15:58).
- \* I can try with all of my might to help others maintain their faithfulness by encouraging them (Hebrews 10:24).
- \* I can do everything possible to help restore the erring child of God (Galatians 6:1-2; 1 Corinthians 5:1-5)

\* I can look for opportunities to teach others the saving message of the gospel (Matthew 28:18-20). Let's be involved in restoring joy to the lives of those that we love.

—Selected

### **Sympathy**

Our sympathy goes out to Mary Brown and her family in the loss of her niece, **Linda Misheo**, who passed away last week in Azle, TX. Her services were held on Tuesday, October 25th at the Azle Church of Christ. Please keep Mary and her family in your prayers.

### **Prayer Request**

**Ysidro Hernandez**, Oliver's brother, had a stroke a few weeks ago. It was reported that the strength on his right side is slowly coming back and he seems to be doing okay. Continue to keep Ysidro in your prayers.

**Diane Cobos**, Beth Ann Easlon's aunt, lost her husband a few weeks ago and is going through a rough time. Diane is in need of prayers.

### **Concerns Update**

Continue to keep **Carolyn Wilkerson** in your prayers as she underwent testing on her esophagus, stomach and small bowel last Wednesday. She needs a diagnosis and cure for the pain she has been having.

Also, continue to pray for **Rudy Alaniz**, Maria Anaya's son, as he continues to seek answers to his health issues.

### **Prayer List**

Rudy Alaniz; Wayne Anderson; Betty Branson; Bill and Mary Brown; Glenna Callendar; LaDonna Chism; Cathy Eastwood; Dana Erwin; Mark Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Elaine Huntington; Chuck Keith; Bella Lee; Mildred Lee; Jason Moore; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Chassidy Rayos; Carlos Reyes; Augie Rubalcado; Haley Shook; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; Bill Wood; John Wood.

### **Eisenhower's Shut-ins**

Glenna Callendar; LaVerne Couch, James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw

### **Events**

Watch ***"In Search of the Lord's Way"*** Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

Today is our Fifth Sunday Service. We will have **"Potluck Luncheon"** following our service this morning followed by the evening service. All our visitors are welcome.

### **Youth**

Bible Knowledge ... "Who said this?"

Judas Iscariot said, "I have sinned for I have betrayed innocent blood." (Matthew 27:4)

### **Office News**

The items requested for our **"Food Pantry"** for the next two weeks are: Black Pepper, boxes of Jello and Puddings.

Today, we will have a **"Special Contribution"** for the NMCCH in lieu of their food drive. They do not pick up food items any longer.

## ***Food for Thought...***

It's home because we love each other.

### Our Only Hope

Often, I have been called to try and comfort those who have just received the stunning news from a doctor, "I'm sorry, but there is no hope."

We never feel more helpless than during those days when life is being sapped from a loved one and we have no cure for the malady. What can be worse than trying to comfort someone, knowing that it is only a matter of time because there is no hope.

Regardless of how heart-rending the thought, the doctors of our land could point to everyone who is out of Christ and diagnose the case by saying, "There is no hope." Paul wrote to the Ephesians of a time when they "were without Christ...having no hope and without God in the world." (Ephesians 2:12)

Man has sinned. Sin separates man from God and results in spiritual death. (Romans 5:12) Unless man locates the Author of life he is doomed to die; there is no hope.

The Apostle Peter, in Acts 3:15, refers to Jesus Christ as the "Prince of life." A bright ray of hope is suddenly seen when Paul writes that "Christ died for us. Much more than, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." (Romans 5:8,9) Our only hope for escape from the dungeon of death is through Christ who died for us.

The time will come for each of us when there is no hope for this physical life; however, for those who obey the Lord and faithfully serve him, there is hope. "The wicked is banished in his wickedness, but the righteous has a refuge in his death." (Proverbs 14:32)

The child of God can triumphantly acclaim with Paul, "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." (Philippians 1:21) In Christ there is hope, both sure and steadfast. (Hebrews 6:19)

—Bobby Key

<b>October 30, 2022</b>	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Oliver Hernandez	Steve Easlon
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Travis Ruckman	Caleb York
Second Prayer	Scot Straw	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Richard Siler	Gary Loving
Lords Supper	<u>Larry May</u> Bill Ryan Jackie Perkins Cody Wesson	Craig Wesson Communion (In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547 *Deacon:* Jr. Munoz—212-2231 *Pulpit:* Jon Roemisch 202-7725 *Table:* Craig Wesson 934-4633—*Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 —*Recording Sermons:* Steven Easlon *Collections:* Craig Wesson

**Sunday AM**

*“Opportunity for Salvation”*

*(Romans 10:14-21)*

**Sunday PM**

*“It is Worth it”*

*(Hebrews 10:32-29)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 71*

*Morning Worship...96*

*Evening Worship ... 52*

*Wednesday...71*

*Contribution...\$5,788.00*